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2s. 6d. per annum post free

The Non-Subscribing Presbyterian

No. 391.

MAY, 1939.

POWER.

WISDOM.

ACTIVITY.

Three modes of manifestation.—JER. x. 12. & LI, 15.

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PRESIDENT OF UNITARIAN COLLEGE, MANCHESTER, ETC

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PACIFIC UNITARIAN SCHOOL
FOR THE MINISTRY
Berkeley, California

NOTES AND NEWS.

Jeremiah x, 12: "He hath made the earth by his power, he hath established the world by his wisdom, and hath stretched out the heavens by his discretion." And in Jer. LI, 15: "Understanding" equals skill, activity. The power that wills, the wisdom that plans, the skill that accomplishes.

Events move rapidly From week-end to week-end one small country after another is being absorbed by a dominant power, and the patience of civilization is strained to breaking-point. Even when the outlook may seem hopeless, the place of the Church is to maintain a channel for peace and goodwill over the

nations, whatever our own political sympathies may be, individually.

* * *

Another winter-session is closing and the reports that come in, tell of good work done, and how the life flows freely through our congregations.

* * *

Here in Ireland, Liberal Christianity is at grips with Fundamentalism, and we are reminded of an old slogan: "The Three R's: Ruined by the Fall, Redeemed by the Blood, and Regenerated by the Holy Ghost; and a distinguished minister, who had outgrown the orthodoxy which still kept its hold on his Church, added: "And another R, which means 'Rubbish'."

* * *

Not many in these days, know the meaning of a hearty, lively good old propaganda meeting, such as at one time stirred whole populations and carried the discussion from the platform to the fireside. Whatever the narrowness of those times, people did concern themselves about their souls' salvation. An old veteran had been giving a lecture on the Atonement, explaining it as the At-one-ment, and at the close, a Congregational minister got up and expressed his agreement with what had been said. "I have told my people again and again," he added, "that the material blood of Jesus has nothing more to do with our salvation, than my walking-stick has. We are not saved by blood, we are saved by truth and love."

* * *

Mussolini in declaring: "We desire that nothing more shall be heard of brotherhood, of sisterhood, of cousinhood, or other bastard relations, because the relations between states are relations of force and these relations and force are determining elements of one policy," is declaring a policy opposed to the coming of the Kingdom of God upon earth."

* * *

A reader has full sets of "The Non-Subscribing Presbyterian," and to any who have their copies bound, or wish to have them for other purposes, the Editor would be glad to make arrangements for their transfer.

* * *

The Rev. A. Wylie Blue, minister of May Street, Presbyterian Church, who is very popular in Belfast, and well-known to some of our ministers, had the degree of Doctor of Divinity conferred on him by the Presbyterian Theological Faculty, on Thursday, April 13th.

It will interest our readers to know that from the Belfast Studio of the B.B. Corporation, the Rev. J. Shaw Brown, of Clough, will conduct a service under the auspices of the Non-Subscribing Presbyterian Church of Ireland.

* * *

ASSOCIATION OF NON-SUBSCRIBING PRESBYTERIANS AND OTHER FREE CHRISTIANS — Has anyone any information concerning the original documents relating to this Association? The Association was founded in 1835. Such would be very thankfully received by the Rev. John Begg, The Manse, Larne.

* * *

The Rev. J. Glynne Davies, Comber, has been nominated as Moderator of the Non-Subscribing Presbyterian Church for 1939-40.

* * *

The Rev. Dr. Rattray of Cambridge will deliver the Synod Lecture on Tuesday, 20th June.

* * *

The Sunday School Conference will meet on Saturday, June 3rd.

* * *

Four students are under the care of the Presbytery of Bangor, and satisfactory reports have been handed in.

* * *

PULPIT SUPPLY.—The Rev. W. Eakin, 103 Greenore Street, Belfast.

* * *

June, 1939, number published on May 27th. Copy sent in before May 20th will be received by Rev. John Barron, Ballywalter, Co. Down.

SUBSIDY FUND.

Contributions should be addressed to Rev. A. Davison, Dromore, by whom they will be gratefully acknowledged.

THE DIVINE WISDOM.

Colossians II, 8.—"Beware of anyone getting hold of you by means of a theosophy which is specious make-believe, on the lines of human tradition, corresponding to the Elemental spirits of the world and not to Christ."

RONALD POTTER JONES, M.A., F.R.I.B.A.

Born 1876. Son of the late Charles William Jones, a shipowner, and brother of Sir Sydney Jones, the present Lord Mayor of Liverpool.

Educated at Shrewsbury and Magdalen College, Oxford.

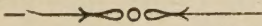
Elected to the Committee of the B. and F.U.A. in 1908, and was its chairman in 1921-22.

Treasurer of the Sustentation Fund 1913-19, and since then has been its Secretary.

President of the General Assembly 1934-35, having also served on the Council since its formation to the present time. Also a member of the Joint Delegation which recommended the formation of the Assembly through the amalgamation of the B. and F.U.A. and the National Conference.

His valuable services to his denomination in these and other directions are far too numerous and comprehensive to enumerate.

An architect by profession. Has done much work in connection with the English churches, including complete church buildings at Finchley and West Kirby, while at Cambridge he had the opportunity of planning and supervising the erection of the church premises under ideal conditions. A member of the London County Council 1925-34 as representing Bethnal Green division, where he is specially interested in the Mansford St. Church and Mission, of which he has been and still is the Secretary since 1907.



The word 'Tavern,' degraded in our day, means 'The Tabernus,' 'The Tabernacle,' 'The Place of the Table,' 'The Place of the Altar,' 'The Place of the Heart.' It was a welcome resting place to pilgrims on their way, it contained the host and the cup—one who had their welfare at heart, and food and drink. There weary travellers rested, met and talked with their fellows, discussed their day's journey past, and tomorrow's adventure to come.

BESSIE A. FORBES.

Perth, Scotland.

ULSTER UNITARIAN CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION.

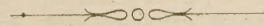
The annual meeting was presided over by the Rev. Dr. Agnew, on April 3rd, 1939. The weather was very unfavourable, heavy rain and bitterly cold. There was however a good representative meeting. Tea and sandwiches were provided by ladies, some of whom had come from as far as Banbridge and Kilinchy.

The report was encouraging and satisfactory, and showed the balance to be on the right side, and a year of good steady work accomplished. Regret was expressed at the death of Mr. J. H. Gilliland for many years the devoted and appreciated agent of the Association; who has been succeeded by his niece, Mrs. Colvin, who has proven herself highly efficient in her work. The Depository serves several useful purposes, and without it our congregations would be at a loss.

The Postal Mission had to suspend activities for the last year because of heavy rates being a severe drain on resources. Central Postal Mission, London, has offered assistance, and the work may be resumed, very soon.

The new Catechism, which is to some extent a revision of 'The Child's Guide,' has been issued in an attractive form.

Criticism was made of the apparently late date of the issue of the report of the previous year; it was however pointed out in the meeting, that this date had as far back as could be remembered been the one for the issue of the report; and that the secretary himself was in no way responsible for an old precedent; for which there was evidently good reason, and against which there never had been any complaint. Coming out, just when it did was an opportune time, because it coincided with giving notice of the forthcoming meeting.



A philosophy differs from a religion in this; it makes no claim to majestic powers or divine revelation, but tries by means of human reason and experience to form, as best it can, some intelligible theory of the world as a whole and of the meaning of human life.—Prof. Gilbert Murray, in Peake's Commentary.

REPORTS.

Ministers' Conference. — The 329th meeting was held at the Carlton Restaurant, Donegall Place, Belfast, on April 3rd, 1939, the Rev. J. A. Kelly of Dunmurry, being the host. There was a good attendance.

The Rev. W. Eakin gave an exposition on Daniel xii, 8—The Book is of later origin than the date. Daniel is presumed to have lived, and is full of glaring historical errors. The so-called prophecies were over and done with before the Book was written; and was written to encourage the Jews to be loyal to their faith during the persecution of Antiochus Epiphanes.

Palestine had been conquered by Alexander the Great. The death of Alexander was followed by a division of the empire. There was a struggle between Syria and Egypt for the possession of Palestine, then Antiochus conquered Palestine and afterwards became King of Syria. But, this was over three centuries after the time of Nebuchadnezzar.

It was the policy of Alexander and his successors not only to rule over conquered territories and collect taxes but to introduce Greek colonists, build Greek cities and to make a fully Greek culture prevail. Hellenism, as it has been called, was in its nature a permeating and transforming force.

The Jews in the face of this attempt fell into two parties, for and against Greek culture; some faithful to ancestral laws; some for Egypt, and the Book of Daniel was a product of this crisis.

Judea, the only Jewish land, Gallilee was still heathen. Jews had two possessions of which they had a right to be proud, the Temple and the Law, resulting in Jews being apart from other men.

Antiochus had set himself the task to definitely extirpate Judaism. Without Judas Maccabees those who shared the faith and hope of Daniel, Judaism would have been crushed out and the victories of Judas, which ensured to us the faith that became Christianity, were thus inspired and made possible, through the Book of Daniel, a book which Jesus Himself made use of.

The best thanks of the meeting were tendered to the Rev. J. A. Kelly, for his

generous hospitality. The addition of a few more of the senior brethren would greatly add to making the conference a more effective power for usefulness and influence by their occasional attendance. The next meeting will be held at Holywood, on May 1st.

Crumlin.—There was a very satisfactory attendance at the annual meeting held on March 23rd. The treasurer, Mr. F. Manderson, presented a balance sheet showing a substantial balance. He was re-elected treasurer. Mr. J. W. McClurg was re-elected secretary and Mr. W. Hunter, auditor.

The minister expressed his appreciation of the continued good attendance at the services, of the work of the Women's League, and of the generosity of the members in subscribing to the cost of repairs to the heating apparatus.

Mrs. Hinkins reported that the Crumlin branch of the Women's League was unique in that it had continued to meet throughout the year. Further the league had provided curtains for the school and made a number of children's garments.

The date of the Floral Service was fixed for June 18, and it was unanimously agreed that the Rev. R. W. Wilde be asked to conduct the service and that Miss Eileen Ervine be invited as soloist.

The ladies provided refreshments at the close of the business.

Men's League.—"Germany to-day," was the title of a lecture given by Mr. Wm. Christie to the Men's League of the Non-Subscribing Presbyterian Church of Ireland in the Central Hall, Rosemary Street, on Tuesday evening, April 4th. Rev. Dr. A. L. Agnew, B.A., presided over a large gathering.

Mr. Christie, whose talk was illustrated by lantern slides, referred to present-day conditions in Germany and the bearing of its inhabitants. Although salaries and wages were lower than in Great Britain, he said, there was every sign of comparative opulence.

Mr. Christie said the unemployment problem of 1933 had vanished and there was such a shortage of skilled labour that a recruiting campaign for such workers had been commenced in the

U.S.A. and elsewhere. He pointed out how typical of the German love for scientific planning were the new motor-roads, designed for handling an enormous volume of traffic; the introduction of cheap motor-cars obtainable on the hire purchase system at five marks per week, and the favourable place given to the farming community by the State, and of the steps taken to enable farm labourers to become farm owners.

Slides were shown relating to the "Strength Through Joy" department of the Labour Front, and details were given of the low cost of holidays organised for the workers.

At the conclusion Mr. Christie was thanked for his interesting talk, on the motion of Dr. Agnew.

Downpatrick—Special Services are to be held in this venerable Old Meeting House on Sunday morning at 11-30 and evening 7 o'clock p.m., on 7th May, first Sunday in the month. Preacher: Rev. Reginald W. Wilde, M.A., B.Sc., who has kindly consented to conduct the services. We are hoping all our friends and members of neighbouring churches will attend and give Mr. Wilde a fitting reception.

Ulster District Women's League:—The annual meeting was held in the Rosemary Hall, Belfast, on Friday, March 24th at 3 p.m., when reports of the winter's work, were read by branch secretaries.

Mrs. Glynne Davies of Comber was elected delegate to the annual London meetings.

The following office-bearers were re-elected:—President, Mrs. Gardiner, B.A.; vice-presidents, Miss Armstrong, Mrs. Thompson; secretary, Mrs. Taggart; treasurer, Miss Laird; fellowship secretary, Mrs. Glynne Davies, friendly links, Mrs. Thompson; publicity and publications, Mrs. F. A. Robinson.

"A Bring and Buy Sale" in aid of district funds was held at the close of the meeting.

This was well attended and tea was served by members of All Souls' branch.

Hollywood.—On Sunday, March 26th, after Morning Service, a presentation was made to Miss Nan Shannon, on the

eve of her marriage to Mr. W. J. Owen. The gift, consisting of a three-piece Tea Service, was from the members of the choir and the Women's League. Miss K. Neill, after congratulating Miss Shannon, said how much she would be missed in the choir and in the congregation; the presentation was then made by Mrs. Omar C. Nelson, and Miss Shannon, in a few words suitably acknowledged the gift.

Moneyrea.—The Dramatic Society gave two excellent performances of the delightful comedy—"The Preserving Pan," by Elizabeth Shane, in the Little Memorial School, Moneyrea, on Friday and Saturday nights, April 7th and 8th. On both nights, the building was packed; people came from far and near, and late comers were turned away. There was no ghost of a doubt about the audiences appreciation of the play. Every member of the cast played his or her part true to character and was word perfect.

The characters were:—

Mrs. Montgomery, the lady of the house—Miss R. Kennedy.

Miss Lamb, a neighbour—Miss F. McCullough.

Mrs. Dougall, the cook—Miss M. McFarland.

Kate, the house maid—Miss M. Lappin.

Tilly, the between-maid—Miss Betty Davis.

Mrs. Megannity, a country woman—Miss M. Strain.

Dan Roberts, the gardener—Edward Fisher.

Willy Hughes, the chauffeur—Frank Maxwell.

Joe Donnelly, a bread-man—Robert Hill.

A Tinker—James Maxwell.

The performance were very successful and every member concerned deserved the highest praise. The Society's sincere thanks are due to Miss Kennedy, who deputised at the last moment for one of the players who had been taken seriously ill, and also to the kindly hosts who entertained the members to tea after each performance.

Belfast Chapter Unitarian Men's League.—Mr. W. Christie gave his

promised lecture to the Men's League on April 4th, 1939, the subject being 'Sidelights on Nazi Germany.'

Mr. Christie had displayed his usual energy and thoroughness by collecting at very considerable trouble some lantern slides and a camera which when operated by Dr. A. L. Agnew, B.A., D.D., made the talk much more interesting than it would have been in the usual way. It was evident that the speaker had gone to great pains to obtain the information contained in his discourse which he imparted to his appreciative audience with commendable skill, his method being that of a university lecturer—I give you the accredited facts you examine them and form your own deductions. Mr. Christie had secured his knowledge by observation on the spot and from the considered statements of capable and unbiassed authorities in England and one felt that undoubtedly the vast majority of Germans were on the whole better off, at any rate materially, than immediately before the "Hitler" regime, and his point was, what is the lesson for us? We are looking forward to listening to Mr. Christie on another topic in the not far distant future.—"The Reward of Service is More Service."

All Souls', Belfast.—At the Church Committee meeting held on Thursday, March 23rd, it was decided, though we have not the funds in hand, to proceed with the re-wiring of the hall. We wish to acknowledge, in response to our appeal, £3 from the Women's League, £1 from Miss McGiffin, £1 from Miss Carmichael and £1 from Mrs. and the Misses Duffin. We have now £8 in hand, but to do the work properly we need at least £80, so will you please make your effort.

Badminton finished for this season on Monday, March 27th, when Miss Martin, our captain, gave the supper. It has been a very successful season, and we are pleased to report that we won the last match, which was against Malone. We are sorry to report the resignation of Miss Ara Montgomery, from the position of Secretary. Miss Montgomery has held the position, so I am informed, since the inception of the club, and has always had the interest of the club at

heart. It will be difficult to fill her place.

A very successful Military Whist Drive was held under the auspices of the Tennis and Badminton Club, on Friday, March 24th. The ladies provided the supper, the men the prizes.

OBITUARY.

Miss Mary Scott, Ballyclare.

The congregation of the Old Presbyterian Church has to mourn the loss of a valued member—Miss Mary Scott, who passed away at the Larne District Hospital, on Thursday, April 13th, the result of an accident. Up to the last she was in the enjoyment of good health. The very large and representative gathering at the funeral which took place to Ballynure Churchyard, on Saturday afternoon, April 15th, testified to the esteem in which she was held by all sections of the community. To the relatives and friends very sincere sympathy is extended. The services in the home and at the graveside were conducted by the Rev. A. M. Bell, assisted by the Rev. Andrew Scott, Ballynure.

DOG FINDS RECORDS LOST FOR 14 YEARS.

A dog pawing in the town dump unearthed century-old records of the All Souls Unitarian Church, Greenfield, Mass. The records were missing for 14 years.

MONEYREA NON-SUBSCRIBING PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

Sunday School Anniversary Services
will be held on
**Sunday, May 14th, 1939, at 12 noon,
and 7 p.m.**

Preacher:

**Rev. John McCleery, B.A., S.T.M.,
Newry.**

Collections in aid of Sunday School funds.

REVIEW.

"A Possible Religion—The Christian Way of Life,"—by Basil Martin, M.A. The Sunday Press, 1/-.

The author is a man of varied experience, was for twenty-nine years in the congregational ministry, and for twenty years (1913-33) was Unitarian minister, at Finchley, London. He is evidently a ripe thinker, original, independent and widely read. This is a challenging book and provocative of thought, and quotations from sources widely apart are made use of.

This book, he informs us, follows one of four years ago, "An Impossible Parson," giving some account of his career as a minister of religion and the changes of thought through which he passed. A critic of that book quoting from "Mark Rutherford's Deliverance," describes a preacher in the pulpit of St. Paul's with some thousands in front of him, only to discover that all he had to say to them would be, "Dear friends, I know no more than you do; we had better go home." I do not wish to suggest, said the critic, "that that is Mr. Martin's position, but his story leaves us more sure of what he cannot say than of what he can." Mr. Martin endeavours, therefore, to state his position more fully, and to show what Religion means as distinct from popular beliefs identified with it.

"We do not always know upon what our faith really depends. Inside the Old Gravel Pit Chapel in Hackney, there were at one time two grand pillars upon which the edifice was supposed to depend. In the course of a Sunday service, a college tutor who used to stand at prayer time, according to ancient fashion, was leaning against one of the pillars and thought he felt it move. He possessed his soul in patience until the service was over, when it was discovered that, so far from supporting the building, these two grand pillars were in fact hanging from the roof, and could be swung backwards and forwards like a pendulum. The pillars were removed and the chapel stood as firmly as ever." The moral is obvious.

Two beautiful quotations are given: "Wordsworth wandering among the hills and dales of Westmorland stands

enraptured and in the silent faces of earth and sky he reads unutterable love."

Estlin Carpenter wrote to a friend: "I went out one afternoon for a walk alone. Suddenly I became conscious of the presence of someone else. I cannot describe it, but I felt I had as direct a perception of the being of God all around me, as I have of you when we are together. It came unsought, unexpectedly. I had not found God because I had never looked for Him, but He found me." This book is No. 5, in the series of Uncensored Avowals.—ULLIN.

 ARYAN.

The Aryan myth is explained and exploded. Aryan is a language rather than a race, or rather the basis of many languages of India and Europe. The Germans are not Aryans and not particularly Nordic. The Aryans can nowhere be found and the Nordics are not particularly superior. The Jews have not kept themselves apart from other peoples to such an extent as is generally supposed. They have intermarried freely and it would be almost impossible to find any people without some admixture of Jewish blood in their veins. Even the yellow and black races have it. There are no half-castes anywhere in the world because there are no whole-castes or full-castes. We are all mongrels, everyone of us and all the better for being so. So, for any race, whether Jew, German or Italian, to claim to be of purer blood than other races is absurd, sheer pride and nothing else; and to persecute any particular race for not being purely Aryan is as unscientific as it is wicked. No race is wholly Aryan or wholly Nordic or wholly anything except human. — "Liberal Catholic."

 "LIFT UP YOUR HEARTS! TO WHAT?"

To education, to civilisation, to progress? Nay, these are all proved to be false gods, by the bitter experience of a disillusioned and bewildered world. "Lift up your hearts! We lift them up unto the Lord." — Bishop of Chelmsford, at Cambridge University.

HISTORICAL NOTES.

Mountpottinger Unitarian Church.

The Mountpottinger Church traces its history back to 1864 when a small number of men and women in Ballymacarrett impressed by the number of seemingly neglected children in the district decided to start a Sunday School. Francis Ritchie of Mountpottinger offered the use of a room. And on 12th May, 1864 the school was opened on strictly unsectarian principles and for a time members of other Churches, Methodist and Presbyterian assisted. These in the course of a few years dropped out along with a number of the scholars, gradually the number of our own increased until the room 15 x 20 became far too small. Dr. Ritchie, the son of Francis, quietly arranged for a place almost three times in size and as the movement progressed it was decided in 1874 to build the present Church and Schools. There had been two Sunday Schools, morning and afternoon, and the latter had in the course of time attracted older people, so that addresses were given and a regular Sunday afternoon service conducted. Rev. J. C. Street of the 2nd (All Souls Church) was most active in these services and assisted by other Ministers the attendance grew. At that time there were 160 scholars and 22 teachers, on the roll book.

The foundation stone of the Church was laid on May 16th, 1874, by Mrs. Ritchie of The Grove. The original plans of the building called for a spire about 100 ft. high, but as the cost of the building had to be reconsidered, the spire was not built. In a cavity under the foundation stone was placed a bottle containing a number of current coins, copies of the local papers and Inquirer Unitarian Herald, Truth Seeker, list of Trustees, Committee and Subscribers.

The Second Congregation took a special interest in the early days of the new Church and with its minister assisted by Rev. R. J. Orr, York Street, and Rev. David Thompson, Moneyrea, afternoon services were conducted. Rev. David Magennis of Stonebridge was the preacher of the opening service on 3rd January, 1875. The first settled minister was Rev. David Thompson,

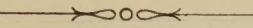
who was followed in 1879 by J. J. Wright. Under Rev. Wright's pastorate the church made marked progress, the Sunday school especially being well attended. Rev. Wright edited a children's magazine, "Young Days" published by Sunday School Association, which had a good circulation here and in England. It was the official paper of a Junior Guild which then had branches in many of our Sunday schools. Mention of schools a very happy idea in Mountpottinger's early days was an interchange of visits with our other Sunday schools in York Street and Moneyrea, this culminated in an immense picnic at Scrabo, when all our Belfast Churches were represented. More than 1,200 scholars and grown-ups had a glorious time. Various ways of transportation brought all to the vicinity and headed by a band from Ballymacarrett, all marched up to the Monument and joined by friends from Comber and Newtownards a happy evening was spent in a variety of games and sports.

Mountpottinger was one of the first, if not, the first Church in Belfast to hold a Flower Service, later changing to a Harvest Festival. The Flower Service might again be revived to mark the Church's anniversary, as in May there is a wreath of floral beauty in her gardens. Rev. Wright was succeeded in 1884 by Walter Reynolds, W. J. Davies 1896-1903, Joseph Worthington 1904-1914, Mathew Watkins 1915-1927, J. H. Ewbank 1928—and the present popular minister, F. Munford 1936.

At the beginning of the 20th Century, the late W. T. Stead anticipated discoveries which might be expected during the century. One of these was television, with reference to which, he said, it would be possible to go into the nearest theatre and watch the Derby, while it was in progress. Something of the kind happened on Thursday night, February 23rd, when for the first time on a large-sized cinema screen a programme of "Boxing" was shown, to a crowded audience. Like the cinema in general, television may become a means of upliftment of great cultural value, or of the opposite, according to public taste.

PRESIDENTS OF THE CHURCH.

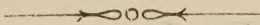
"Presbyters who are efficient presidents are to be considered as worthy of ample remuneration, particularly those who have the task of preaching and teaching." "In the presence of God and the Lord Jesus Christ and the elect angels, I adjure you to be unprejudiced in carrying out these orders. Never be in a hurry to ordain a presbyter; keep your own life pure."—I Tim. V 17 & 22.



FUNDAMENTALISM.

"Conceive of a criminal in jail under sentence of death, and at the same time infected with a dangerous disease; in order to his being saved, he must be both pardoned and cured: for if he be only pardoned, he will soon die of his disease; or if he be only cured, he will soon be executed. Such is the emblem of the sinner's case; by actual sin he is condemned to die, and by inherent depravity he is infected with a spiritual disease: in justification he is pardoned; in sanctification he is cured; and the two blessings, although distinct, are always united, and are both necessary to salvation. Thus you see justification changes our relation to God, but sanctification changes our spiritual condition; and regeneration, or the new birth, means our first entrance upon a sanctified state." J. Angell James.

George Fox, founder of the Society of Friends, maintained that man was not inherently corrupt, but that "the Light lightens every man, born into the world." Orthodoxy preached "Inner darkness," the Quakers preached "the Inner Light;" and so have others, who will not subscribe to the orthodox standards.



"It matters very little what you believe; it matters enormously what you are . . . Give the God in you a chance. Open yourself and pour out to all around you . . . Love is always good even when sometimes its expression may be foolish . . . Believe in the self in you, the God within you, and then you will live the noblest life because it is a life of love."

A LITTLE PRAYER FOR DOGS THAT FALL ASLEEP.

Is there a country, Lord, where Thou dost keep

A space reserved for dogs that fall asleep?

Large airy kennels, yards for hiding bones;

A little river chattering over stones,
And wide green fields, for those that only knew

A smoky town; an old worn rug or two

Before a fire, where sparks do not fly out—

Sparks are such nasty things to have about!

I like to think some place there is—and so I pray

For one dear dog of mine that died to-day.

He was so full of fun—not very wise,
The puppy look still lingered in his eyes.

But he was very dear—he'd come to me
And rest his firm black chin upon my knee.

Thou knowest him—one night not long ago,

He tramped with me across the frozen snow;

And there beyond the wood, peaceful and still,

We met Thee walking on the moonlit hill.

You called—he paused—then left me—now he's yours,

And my heart aches throughout the lonely hours.

Lord, keep him safe wherever he may be,

And let him always have a thought of me;

That I may hear, when I pass through the Dark,

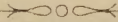
Thy soothing voice, and then that well-known bark.

—From Mr. Nesbitt, "Licensing Fund,"
57/59 High Street, Belfast.

CORRECTION—April, 1939, No. 1, p. 54.
"God he claims to be God," should be: "Did he claim to be God?" [Ed.]

GOSPEL "GOOD NEWS" NOT "GOOD ADVICE."

We shall find that Jesus Christ did not so much found a new religion as reveal to mankind what religion is. The Gospel is good news not good advice. He came to offer to men the privilege of citizenship in what He called the Kingdom of God, a spiritual society which must be entered by a new birth, a transformation of the individual human being, whose immortal spirit is to become, even while he lives here, the temple of the Holy Spirit of God.—Very Rev. W. R. Inge, D.D.



War will only be averted by the intensification of the effort of men of depth of understanding, men who see deeply into the unity of everything, from Rulers and Prime Ministers right down the line. Only such a pooling of the world's resources of understanding will release the prevailing tension at its critical point. And nobody doubts that if looming war recedes, the need to prevent it will still exist. The light must be ever shining in the darkness.—"The Theosophist."

* * *

Spring cometh . . . and there is a perfumed, fresh earthiness in the air, the sky is dark as thunder, but outlined in sharp relief against it are pussy willows, shining from the recent heavy shower, scintillating against their seemingly black stems . . . The setting sun catches a few commonplace things, sets them alight in a new splendid glory which is entirely their own. The white-washed farmhouse on the summit of the dark ploughed hill . . . the tops of trees, shining ridiculously, yet enchantingly pale red . . . a dark hawthorn tree, suddenly miraculously sprayed with tiny hopeful green buds. And then . . . all God's glorious beauty personified in a rainbow, startling, amazing, against the stormy sky . . . it was exquisite, almost unbelievable, in its sheer transparent loveliness. Then . . . somewhere, close, chatteringly joyful, a blackbird, in sheer spontaneous joy, sings . . . And it is Spring at last.—J. H. (aged 14).

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